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Administrator Mark McClellan to Meet with Kansas Health Officials and Tour Health Facilities

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Mark McClellan, M.D., will visit Kansas on Friday, November 5, 2004. The visit will allow McClellan to meet with Kansas health officials and see first-hand the issues facing health care in the state.

" This is a great opportunity for Kansans to have one of the top health care officials in the country visit our state to see the challenges and difficulties health care providers face in serving small communities, " Moran said. " As health care providers work to implement the Medicare Modernization Act, it is important that health officials in Washington, D.C., have an appreciation for the way it affects our hospitals, doctors, nursing homes, ambulance operators, pharmacists and home health agencies. The only way to accurately convey the challenges facing our hospitals is to bring officials to Kansas to see things for themselves. "

During the visit, Moran and McClellan will hold a roundtable discussion in Pratt with health care leaders from across the state. Participants will include hospital administrators, nursing home directors, doctors, nurses, home health care providers, ambulance operators, disability organizations and representatives from other health care related fields. In addition, Moran and McClellan will tour the Pratt Regional Health Center in Pratt and the Kiowa County Hospital in Greensburg.

" Congressman Moran is a leader in Washington, D.C. in meeting the health care needs of rural communities, " McClellan said. " I am looking forward to listening to him and other health care leaders in western Kansas, as well as the chance to discuss how the new Medicare Modernization Act helps improve access to quality health care for rural America. "

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